

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
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26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) A method of screening undesired electronic mail in an electronic communication service which comprises:

scanning an incoming mail message for an incoming sending source designation, an incoming domain designation, and an incoming text body;

generating a plurality of comparison index values from the incoming source designation, the incoming domain designation, and the incoming text body; and

identifying the incoming mail message as undesirable in response to a positive comparison between said plurality of comparison index values and known SPAM sources.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein said identification is determined by the probability that the message is from an unwanted source, the frequency with which content appears in messages in the service, the number of hyperlinks, and the targets of the hyperlinks.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising:

logging the incoming mail message in a SPAM database;

updating a SPAM log database; and

discarding the incoming message.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein the weighing of the factors can be varied by a system administrator.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising:

scanning an incoming mail message for an incoming hypertext link;

generating a plurality of comparison index values from the incoming hyperlink; and

comparing the plurality of comparison index values to the SPAM database.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)